

# Operations Proving Ground

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For the Operations Proving Ground, one of the most prominent highlights of FY17 involved successful evaluation and transition to operations of a collection of AWIPS-based tools designed to enhance forecasters' near-storm environmental awareness (NSEA) during convective warning operations. The NSEA toolset, comprised of a GUI application and a cursor readout, was developed as a collaborative National SOO Project to provide NWS mesoanalysts and warning forecasters with a flexible, locally configurable, and user-friendly way to monitor a variety of relevant parameters in rapidly evolving convective storm environments. In addition to the NSEA work, the OPG contributed to several other priority milestones, including GOES-R User Readiness, GLM product validation, and tests concerning the impact of color vision deficiency on the effective interpretation of multi-colored imagery and data displays. We have already completed four of our seven FY18 Milestones, including a OES-16 User Applications Workshop, an collaborative experiment with the Aviation Weather Testbed, technical support for a FACETs Pathfinder project being conducted by SPC and 6 CRH Pilot offices, and a Mesoanalysis Think Tank, which has catalyzed new work underway. Details about motivations and major outcomes of these projects will be discussed, along with an overview of plans for the next year.